GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3002
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
FIRING ON BSF TROOPS
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pak troops were indulging in firing on the Border Security Force posts and villages along the international border in Jammu and Kargil;

(b) if so, the number of firing incidents took place during 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(c) whether the Pak firings are causing great inconvenience to farmers while working in their fields in the border villages; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to ensure security of the civilians residing in the border areas ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) & (b): The number of firing incidents on the Jammu International border during 1997, 1998 and 1999 are as below:

1997	1998	1999
2564	5153	2896

(c): Yes. Due to unprovoked firing by Pak forces Indian civilians residing in border areas have suffered casualties.

(d): The following steps are taken to ensure security of the civilians residing in the border areas:

(i) To ensure border domination Nakas, Ops and border patrolling are carried out extensively and regularly.

(ii) Special security to farmers working in the fields near to zero line during cultivation and harvesting season, is provided.

(iii) Construction of ring bundhs, in vulnerable area to safe guard the civilians from falling victims to unprovoked firing by Pak troops.

(iv) Frequent holding of border meetings with Pak counterpart to ease tension on the border.

(v) Frequent unprovoked firing by Pak troops is also discussed in high level meetings between BSF and Pak Rangers.

(vi) Special operations in border areas are also being carried out to nab antinational elements.

(vii) Patrolling in rear areas are being carried out.

(viii) Use of night vision devices to intercept intruders crossing the border for sabotage activities.